

Community Fellowship Agreement

Community Fellowship role as defined by the National Program Office (NPO): Mobilizing the community to support a young person from initial contact, through treatment and juvenile justice plans, and provide ongoing supports for their transition to the community. This is a unique aspect of Reclaiming Futures (RF) and considered to be among the most important keys to our success. Leaders from schools, faith-based organizations, businesses, families, and civic groups advise each project on opportunities for teens in order to reach this goal. The Community Fellow will take the lead in organizing the link between the court, treatment and the community at large with a special role to advocate for diverse community voices that are historically marginalized and excluded. Close proximity to authentic community membership is key (vs. paid professional community worker – who, though important, should not speak for communities).

Expectations:

- Read Reclaiming Futures' publication, *Moving Toward Equal Ground* (link available in the grantee login section of the website in *Section 1.F. Leadership*)
- Challenge other fellowships to carefully consider and engage "family and community voice" throughout the entire Reclaiming Futures process and provide regular oversight that this is occurring. Advocate for natural supports; raise issues of the family members to the team.
- **Be the link** between families and systems. Operationalize this role.
- Attend monthly local leadership team meetings – twice a month during a site's first six months (2-3 hours/month)
- Participate in quarterly Fellowship calls with the other sites and the NPO (1 hour every quarter)
- Champion changes to procedure and organizational culture necessary to execute the local Reclaiming Futures implementation plan.
- Advocate for inclusion of families, community members, and non-profit service organizations in policymaking related to the juvenile justice system.
- Actively promote and model anti-oppressive practice: trouble systems and institutions when policies perpetuate racial and socio-economic disparities.
- Participate in occasional touch-base calls with the NPO (1 hr ~ ea 6 months)
- Join Reclaiming Futures webinars and office hours, especially as they relate to the Community Fellowship role (1-2 hours/month)
- Refer to the Reclaiming Futures toolkit and other online resources as necessary to support related activities locally (1½ hours/month)
- Participate in Rapid Cycle Tests (RCT's)
- Chair Community sub-committee of your local leadership team, if applicable (as-needed basis, at least quarterly)
- Participate in site visits (1-2 days/ year)
- Attend Reclaiming Futures Leadership Institute (annually, 2-3 days at a time)
- Promote Reclaiming Futures among colleagues; educate the community at large about Reclaiming Futures.
- Other requests for fellows' time may be made based on the specific needs of their local sites.

I agree to participate fully in Reclaiming Futures [insert local project name here], to be a positive role model in it, and to follow through on all time commitments for the Reclaiming Futures Community Fellowship.

Signature

Date